

FOB/SOV/COL

CONTACT REPORT

DATE: 4 September 1963

C/O PSEUDO: C
C/O ALIAS: CAGENT CRYPT: AEABYSS/1
AGENT ALIAS: WalterPROJECT: CODED LCFIREBOXDATE & TIME OF MEETING: 2 Sept 1963
1700 to 2015PLACE OF MEETING: Home of CDATE September 1963

PURPOSE OF MEETING: Debrief A/1 and provide briefing for forthcoming tour in the USSR.

1. COMMO ARRANGEMENTS: C will call the operational number when A/1 returns from his tour in the USSR. This is expected sometime in December 1963.

2. SUBSTANCE:

I. Debriefing

a. Richard LINDNER - As reported earlier, A/1 was given a letter by Anatol Zitrin (Tsitrin) in Salavat to be delivered to Lindner in Klein-Denkite, about six km from A/1's home town. On 31 August, at about 1900, A/1 accompanied by his wife visited Lindner at his home to deliver the letter. The meeting with Lindner first came about when A/1 stopped at a restaurant in Klein-Denkite to inquire of the residence of the school teacher Lindner. As he made the inquiry, a man standing next to him identified himself as Lindner. When he learned of A/1's name, he immediately associated him with a letter from Tsitrin, and asked for it on the spot. A/1 then made some comment to the effect that he would prefer to pass it at Lindner's home, to which the latter offered an invitation to accompany him to his house. Lindner had obviously gone out to purchase beer, and pushing his bicycle, he walked A/1 and wife to his residence.

A/1 described Lindner as about 35 years of age, 6' tall, medium built. He was dressed in a sweater with rolled collar (which by itself, or along with what came out during subsequent discussion) made A/1 believe that Lindner was a typical Communist. He was not overly friendly or hospitable, in fact, would have dismissed A/1 in the restaurant had he been given the letter there. Lindner lives in a house located immediately adjacent to the village church. It is very old, inherited from Lindner's parents, and furnished with belongings that obviously had been passed on from a previous generation. The general impression was one of poverty. Lindner is employed as a teacher in Wolfenbuettel. Also present in the house was a young woman, about 20 years of age, no name that A/1 could remember. She is dark blond, medium height with pronounced dog teeth. She was introduced as Lindner's sister. A/1 also remembers seeing a boy, about 8 years, who was not further identified other than "our boy". A/1 does not know whether Lindner is married, but has the impression that he is not.

The conversation with Lindner revolved mainly about the USSR. Lindner had visited Leningrad in 1959, 1960 and again this year. He knows Tsitrin well, but does not appear to make this Soviet his sole purpose for his trips to Leningrad. A/1 did not determine whether Lindner stays with Tsitrin on these visits. Lindner showed an interest in the parts of the Soviet Union known to A/1, and much of the conversation consisted of A/1 describing Salavat. Whenever A/1 tried to evoke some reaction from Lindner on living conditions in the USSR, Lindner usually backed off, but once in a while admitted that the Soviets had still a long way to go toward a standard of living on the level of the West. The information on Tsitrin, which came out of this discussion, is reported separately. However, Lindner obviously expected a letter from his Soviet friend. He gave the letter immediately to his sister and asked for whether it contained anything of interest. She read it quickly and informed Lindner that it contains "eigentlich nichts besonderes". A/1 did explain that he was delayed in delivering the note, an explanation that was accepted without question. We tried to get further details on Lindner's trips to the Soviet Union, his purpose, source of money, activities while in Leningrad, but A/1 was negative on all these points. He remarked that this being the first meeting with Lindner he could not pump him for information, and the only topics discussed gave little insight into such matters. He came away with the general impression that Lindner is the type of shrewed, calculating Communist who will take over the Wolfenbüttel area comes the revolution.

A/1 invited Lindner to his home in December in order to continue the relationship, and to get him under better control for questioning. Lindner himself hopes to return to the Soviet Union for another visit. On the last visit, ~~XXXXXX~~ his sister accompanied him, and from her remarks, she enjoyed it so much that she hopes to go again. No date for such a future visit was indicated.

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b. Anatol TSITRIN or ZITRIN - From his discussion with Lindner, A/l obtain some additional information on Tsitrin. He learned that Tsitrin's grandfather was the chief rabbi of Moscow. Tsitrin himself is divorced, lives in one room and must share a kitchen. A/l has the impression from Lindner that Tsitrin is very poor. He smokes, and likes American cigarettes (this from A/l who offered Tsitrin both German and American cigarettes in Salavat). He is the chief of a group of 6 or 8 people (presumably engineers) in an office in Leningrad.

c. A/l's original meeting with Tsitrin - (Note: In order to determine again the details of the first and subsequent meetings between A/l and Tsitrin, we reviewed the information as reported the last time. The facts are somewhat at variance, which may be explained by the emphasis on specific detail at this session.)

The first meeting with Tsitrin was ~~similar~~ as reported earlier. A/l had breakfast in a dining room reserved for foreigners, located in the Salavat residence of A/l, on Karl Marx ul. Tsitrin had apparently arrived that morning in Salavat from Leningrad and was staying in another part of the same house. He had come down to eat, but was refused service, since the dining room for foreigners was off limits to Soviets. He was noted by A/l for the noise he made, and the derogatory statements on the fact that foreigners were being served and not Soviet citizens.

*All this in the face of
the evident possibility that
A/l's man may
be targeted.*

That same evening (this was about 12 June), A/l was walking alone in Salavat when he was met by two Soviets, one of whom was known to him from the construction site. The two Soviets had already been drinking, apparently celebrating a birthday, and when they saw A/l, hooked him under their arms and dragged him along to the main hotel in town. After they had been seated, Tsitrin approached their table and sat down with them. He had already been in the hotel, and had been seated with a man and woman whom he pointed out to A/l as being with him (possibly from Leningrad). He immediately began talking in German to A/l, leaving the other two Soviets guessing what what this was all about. He introduced himself, mentioned Prof. Dun as his chief, and as the source of his information about A/l. A/l can only guess that Tsitrin had heard about him during that day, when he say the Soviet inspecti the Linde Plant, and that he knew him by sight from having been pointed out by other Soviets. That first meeting was relatively short and consisted mainly in mutual identification. A/l did invite Tsitrin to his room, and the Soviet at first showed some concern: "man wünscht es nicht". He later consented, and visited A/l a day or so later. At this second meeting Lindner was mentioned for the first time. The conversation that evening began with A/l asking Tsitrin about his status in the Soviet Union, referring obviously to the fact that he is a Jew, and pointed out to the Soviet that this must be registered in his passport. This is when Tsitrin reacted in a way that A/l assumed him to be not wholly satisfied with the Soviet regime. Tsitrin said that things were now better for Jews, but he left room for improvement. Then the conversation turned to Germany, and this is when Tsitrin acknowledged having a friend, Lindner, who lives close to A/l's home (A/l established that Klein-Denke was close to his home town). Tsitrin then asked for A/l to take a letter to Lindner, and A/l agreed.

3. NEW BIOGRAPHIC DATA: A/l's son married a daughter of Drabent. A/l has two sons but the C/o did not feel it appropriate to delve too deeply into this affair which obviously did not please A/l in view of his dislike of Drabent.

4. ATTITUDE, MORALE, AND PERFORMANCE: A/l displayed considerable cooperation by giving three hours of his valuable time to the C/O. He seemed more relaxed than the previous time the C/O had met him. Not as much time and attention was paid to C []

5. FINANCE AND SUPPORT: as should have been because of the limited time available. C/O brought two bottles of liquor for A/l and [] a large box of candy for Mrs. C []

6. COMMITMENTS: C/O Committed [] to call on C [] when he comes north.

7. SECURITY: C/O used Frankfurt civilian plates and parked the car around the corner of the meeting place.

8. ADDITIONAL REMARKS AND COMMENTS: Thanks to C [] good relations with A/l and C [] the C/O had no trouble pinching on this case.

Substance (continued)

The third meeting with Tsitrin took place again in A/l's room. This was a very short meeting and had primarily the purpose of passing the letter to A/l. At this, or perhaps the previous meeting, ~~THEMME~~ A/l asked for Tsitrin's address in Leningrad, and hinted at the possibility of coming there for a visit. Tsitrin after some hesitation gave the address (written on a separate piece of paper which A/k offered to him (see copy attached)) and then said that he may have difficulty inviting A/l to his home. This, A/l assumes, has something to do with Tsitrin's fear of becoming associated with foreigners.

Note: The long arm of fate. [] traces: Headquarters traces in EGFV 15579, taken from a debriefing of [] are almost certainly identical with the Tsitrin [] love. The handwriting sample attached to the HQ traces definitely are similar to the letter written by Tsitrin and given to A/l).

REDSKIN case. [] I conducted the debriefing of [] re Tsitrin (in 1958)

- d. Sissin (fmu) - (Note: This and other Soviets, below, were checked again to determine their current positions and any additional information, some of which already reported)

Sissin is the chief of the polyethelyne plant in Salavat constructed by A/l. He is about 5'10", built slim, about 36 years of age. He speaks some German. A/l has almost daily contact with him, but his conversation is almost exclusively on technical matters. A/l dislikes Sissin, mainly for his blind adherence to the party line. When he returned from Germany recently A/l asked how he like it. Sissin curtly told him "Strassen gut; Fleischh teuer". Sissin has a family; A/l thinks he may have two children. A/l was never invited to Sissin's home. He once saw him on the stage of the House of Culture along with other city dignitaries and concludes from this that he is a member of the Salavat city council.

- e. MIRONENIKOV (fmu) - Replaced DENISOV when the latter was sent to Germany. He heads the repair shop and has daily contact with the plant. He is about 30 years of age; not as competent as DENISOV.

- f. OSSIPENKO (fmu) - Chief of Kombinat 18. About a year ago he replaced BERESOVSKIY (fmu), who was probably removed for lack of competence. B. was hardly ever at the plant which caused constant complaining and it was finally the combination of PRAKHOV (A/l's interpreter) and KUVYIKIN who removed him. O. is about 42 years of age.

- g. DENIKO(V) (fmu) - Liaison officer from the SOVNAKHOZ in UFA. He apparently has considerable authority and on one occasion sided with A/l on the condition of a piece of machinery against Sissin, forcing the latter to accept A/l's position. DENIKO was a former PW in Germany and speaks good German.

- f. FILARETOV (fmu) - Deputy to chief of Kombinat 18, Ossipenko

- g. Kurt BRAESKE - Left Salavat on 12 December 1962.

- h. Power Supply at Kombinat 18 - There are currently two sources of power known to A/l which feed into Kombinat 18. One is a power line which A/l assumes to carry 100,000 volts; the other is a power plant with 3 smokestacks, 120m. high, each with 3 boilers. The power plant feeds the following plants in Kombinat 18 in addition to the Polyethelene Plant (which also draws on the power line):

Building # 1 - Linden Plant
" # 7 - Work shop
" # 6A - Test and control shop
6 - Laboratory
" # 4B - Hot Water plant

Inaddition to the existing sources of power, a new plant is currently being constructed, presumably to supply power to the Polyethelene Plant, and any future additions thereto. It already has a chimney 180m. high

i. Prison Labor - A/1 reported that prison labor is used extensively at the Kombinat, and at other near-by sites. He has seen daily columns of 16 trucks heading in the direction of Meleus* loaded with prisoners. Each truck carried 36 prisoners and two guards, or one guard and one dog. Other units of trucks go directly into the Kombinat where prisoners work on some 20 projects, each guarded by watch towers and surrounded by wooden fences. A/1 described the trucks as enclosed with wooden slats and ~~xxxxxxxx~~ topped with chicken wire. The new power plant, for example, is built by prison labor. It is completely surrounded by a wooden fence and guarded with towers. A/1 described the prisoners as all male; their hair completely cut off; not uniformly dressed.

*Meleus is also in the direction of a sugar factory, possibly the destination of the prisoners.

II. Briefing

a. Defensive Briefing - Regarding the letter which A/1 delivered to Lindner, we instructed A/1 as follows: It is quite possible that the combination of circumstances (i.e. the close proximity of Lindner to A/1, the meeting with Tsitrin, etc.) could all be accidental. However, it would be shortsighted not to consider the possibility of provocation, if for no other reason than to be prepared for whatever else may happen. Since A/1 was well acquainted with provocations from an earlier experience (when anti-Soviet literature was found ~~allegedly~~ in German shipping cases) he did not have to be given a detailed explanation. He was told not to accept letters in the future, but to use his failure to deliver the last letter in time as his excuse not to take another chance with other letters. He was told that his best defense is a strong rejection of any provocation attempts, and to threaten immediate departure if such should continue (Note: by temperament and natural inclination, A/1 should be able to carry this out without difficulty).

b. Observations - A/1 was told that we could find no significant targets associated with the sightings he reported. He was requested to check again for any changes, and for any military activity related to these targets.

c. General Reporting - A/1 himself remarked that he now knows what interests us, specifically any missile associated equipment, LOX card and military hardware. He was encouraged to continue looking for such items.

d. Communications - A/1 was instructed not to write to C anything that could be interpreted as unusual, or intelligence. He was told that we do not expect earth shaking events in his area of the USSR, and that we could wait until December to learn of anything new. He will continue to communicate as in the past with C

III. Future Developments

a. A/1 reported that the Soviets had asked his firm to assign him to either the Ufa or Kazan plants to be constructed. A/1 has not made up his mind what he will do, and does not expect to make a decision until after his long vacation beginning December 1963. At this time he would prefer to begin construction of the Ufa plant and continue there for about three months, or long enough to get things rolling. He would then like to go to Kazan in order to tackle the more difficult job and complete it.

b. We have repeated C earlier requests to make himself available for a longer debriefing sometime during his vacation. He again agreed to this.